UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,625	02/05/2004	James Owen	ORACL-01483US0	5660

80548   7590   01/12/2009
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2165	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/12/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/772,625	OWEN ET AL.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	FARHAN M. SYED	2165	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS,
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 October 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *10,15-26,29,31 and 36-39* is/are pending in the application.

     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) *10,15-26,29,31 and 36-39* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

     a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

         1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

         2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

         3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date *(See Office Action)*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 10, 15-26, 29, 31, and 36-39 are pending. The Examiner acknowledges

amended claims 10, 19, 29, and 31.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 26 August 2008 and 16

October 2008, respective, are being considered by the examiner.

Response to Remarks/Argument

3.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10, 13, 15-20, 22-26, 29, 31, 34,

and 38-39 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

       The Examiner's rejections of the claims, now set forth are in light of the

applicant's arguments against the art applied, But applied in the modified position

therefore, the arguments are deemed moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of
> matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the
> conditions and requirements of this title.

5.   Claims 10, 13, and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed

invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 10 does not positively recite

a particular machine or apparatus which would tie the claims together. Therefore the

claim appears to fall under the judicial exception of an abstract idea which lacks a

useful, concrete, and tangible result. A claimed series of steps or acts for which there

does not appear to be disclosed a result in a useful, concrete, and tangible result are

not statutory within the meaning of 35 USC 101. In the instant case, the claims recite,

"identifying," "communicating," "defining," "creating," and "storing." The Examiner notes

that the limitation of storing content in one or more plurality of content repositories are

directed to virtual content repositories, which according to Applicant's disclosure, see

paragraph [0033], page 5 directed to programmable logic However, no useful,

concrete, and tangible result is disclosed in the instant application as originally filed.

For example, "writing said data," "updating said data," "sending said data" being claimed

at the end of the claim may comprise a useful, concrete, and tangible result. Absent

such a disclosed result, however, the claims are not statutory.

Dependent claims 13 and 15-18 do not appear to cure the deficiency in

independent claim 10 and therefore for reasons similar are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 10, 13, 15-20, 22-26, 29, 31, 34, and 38-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable by Prompt, et al (U.S. Patent Pub. 2001/0034733 A1 and

known hereinafter as Prompt) in view of Hotti et al (U.S. 6,970,876 and known

hereinafter as Hotti).

        As per claims 10, 19, 29, and 31, Prompt teaches a method for transferring

content to a plurality of content repositories (i.e. *"A computer system having a*

hierarchical/relational translation system is provided for enabling information from unrelated

heterogeneous relational computing systems to be accessed, navigated, searched, browsed, and shared

over hierarchical computing systems.")(see at least paragraphs [0018-0019]), comprising: identifying

a content in at least one of a file system (i.e. *"In the described embodiments, users can search*

and/or browse the virtual directory to find the data needed or they can query the directory with simple

commands to search for the information needed")(see at least paragraphs [0018-0019]) and a website

by traversing the at least one of a file system and website (i.e. *"There are conventionally-*

known ways of indexing and addressing information on the Internet (also referred to interchangeably as

the "Net") using an Internet directory. An Internet directory is an application service that generally

performs information retrieval based on properties associated with the data of interest. Internet directories

can store various types of objects, wherein each object is associated with a type of property or

characteristic.")(see at least paragraph [0005]); associating a schema with the content (i.e.

"...virtual directories of the present invention use schema-based data extraction to create a hierarchical

object model.")(see at least paragraphs [0089-0092, 0099-0101]); and communicating with a virtual

content repository (VCR) (i.e. *"The virtual directory establishes a link between the two types of*

customer records and aggregates their data without changing the view. The aggregated records in the

virtual directory constitute a "supercategory" of customers, which automates the process of searching for

information in both source databases, and provides a unique way to index and address the data."(see at

least paragraph [0115]) via an Application Programming Interface (API) to provide the

content (i.e. *"Using a standard Application Programming Interface (API) facilitates the mapping that

allows navigation between the two unrelated databases."*(see at least paragraphs [0115-0118]) and the

schema to the VCR for inclusion in one or more of a plurality of content repositories (i.e.

*"More importantly, the same mechanism is able to operate on different schema to aggregate data and to

provide a simple way to deliver a choice of views."*(see at least paragraphs [0115-0118]), wherein the

VCR integrates the plurality of content repositories into a logical repository (i.e.

"Additionally, the VDS enables the aggregation of data from diverse heterogeneous databases") see at

least paragraphs [0116-0120]); storing the content and the schema in a node (i.e. *"In doing so,

for each Object selected, a node in the DirectoryView Tree is generated 1508. Each node describes the

information needed to query the database 106."*(paragraphs [0120-123]) in one or more of the

plurality of content repositories (i.e. *"In the embodiment shown in FIG. 4, network communication

system 100b enables the translation of relational database objects and (logical) relationships to virtual

directory entries that are useable with hierarchical network data models in accordance with the present

invention."*(see paragraphs [0120-0123; 0140-0155]); wherein the API presents a unified view of

the plurality of content repositories as a single repository and enables navigation of the

plurality of content repositories (i.e. Directory View Generator)(see at least paragraphs [0159-

0163]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b) and enables create, read, update, and delete

(CRUD) operations to be performed on the plurality of content repository; wherein each

content repository in the plurality of content repositories implement a Service Provider

Interface (SPI) (i.e. schema manager application)(see at least paragraphs [0175-0184]) to integrate

into the VCR (i.e. VDS)(see at least paragraphs [0159-0163, 0175-0184]); and wherein the API

and the SPI share the content model that represents combined contents of the plurality

of content repositories (see at least paragraphs [0241-0267]).

Prompt does not explicitly teach defining a content model in the VCR, wherein

the content model includes a plurality of content nodes and a plurality of hierarchy

nodes; creating a content node for each of the plurality of content repositories wherein

each content node identifies the content repository with which it is associated and

wherein each content node has its own content schema which is metadata that

describes the content node's properties; creating a hierarchy node for different types of

content available in the plurality of content repositories wherein each hierarchy node is

associated with one or more content nodes, and each hierarchy node is associated with

its own hierarchy schema which is metadata that describes the hierarchy node's

properties.

Hotti teaches defining a content model in the VCR {See HOTTI, Figure 9; and col. 9,

lines 19-27, wherein this reads over "a hierarchic system where several database systems a, b, c have

their respective schema management nodes"}, wherein the content model includes a plurality of

content nodes and a plurality of hierarchy nodes {See HOTTI, col. 6, lines 30-31, wherein this

reads over "[t]he configuration management replicas may be full or partial copies); creating a content

node for each of the plurality of content repositories wherein each content node

identifies the content repository with which it is associated {See HOTTI, Figure 9, Elements

921 a, b, and c; and col. 6, lines 52-66, wherein this reads over "[a]s part of the registration, the

identification data, e.g. schema name, or the new application data node is sent to the configuration

management master database node"} and wherein each content node has its own content

schema which is metadata that describes the content node's properties {See HOTTI,

Figure 9, Elements 921 a, b, and c; and col. 6, lines 52-66, wherein this reads over "[a]s part of the

registration, the identification data, e.g. schema name, or the new application data node is sent to the

configuration management master database node"}; creating a hierarchy node for different types

of content available {See HOTTI, Figure 9; and col. 9, lines 19-27, wherein this reads over "a

hierarchic system where several database systems a, b, c have their respective schema management

nodes"} in the plurality of content repositories wherein each hierarchy node is associated

with one or more content nodes {See HOTTI, col. 2, wherein this reads over "[a] schema is a

representation of the structure of the database that illustrates what kind of data is stored in the

database"}, and each hierarchy node is associated with its own hierarchy schema which

is metadata that describes the hierarchy node's properties {See HOTTI, Figure 2a, Elements

233 and 203; col. 6, lines 20-24, wherein this reads over "replicas of the configuration management

master are stored into database server 201, 211, 221 of the database system"; and col. 7, lines 20-26,

wherein this reads over, "schema name of the new application database is sent to the configuration

management master database node"}.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Prompt with the teachings of Hotti to

include defining a content model in the VCR, wherein the content model includes a

plurality of content nodes and a plurality of hierarchy nodes; creating a content node for

each of the plurality of content repositories wherein each content node identifies the

content repository with which it is associated and wherein each content node has its

own content schema which is metadata that describes the content node's properties;

creating a hierarchy node for different types of content available in the plurality of

content repositories wherein each hierarchy node is associated with one or more

content nodes, and each hierarchy node is associated with its own hierarchy schema

which is metadata that describes the hierarchy node's properties with the motivation to
modify the content schemas and hierarchy schemas to create a virtual content
repository..

As per claims 15, 26, and 36, Prompt teaches a method wherein the step of
identifying the first content includes: extracting properties from one of: 1) a file; 2) a
hypertext markup language (HTML) document; and 3) an Extensible Markup Language
(XML) document (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123,
0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claims 16, and 37, Prompt teaches a method wherein the step of
associating the first schema with the first content includes: acquiring the first schema
from at least one of: 1) a file; 2) a hypertext markup language (HTML) document; and 3)
an Extensible Markup Language (XML) document (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019,
0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure
11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claims 17, and 38, Prompt teaches a method wherein the step of
communicating with the VCR includes: persisting in one of the plurality of content
repositories the content and the schema (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092,
0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a,
and 14b).

As per claims 18, and 39, Prompt teaches a method wherein the step of communicating with the VCR includes: preserving in one of the plurality of content repositories hierarchical relationships between the first content and other content in the VCR (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claim 20, Prompt teaches a system further comprising: at least one second process that interacts with the first process; wherein the at least one second process provides to the first process the content and the schema corresponding to the content; and a third set of services that enables interaction between the at least one second process and the first process (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claims 21 and 23, Prompt teaches a system wherein: the third set of services provides a first function for directing the at least one second process to extract at least one property from the content (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b); and wherein a property is an association between a name and a value (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claims 22 and 24, Prompt teaches a system wherein: the at least one

second process derives the schema from the content (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-

0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also

Figure 11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claim 25, Prompt teaches a system further comprising: at least one

second process operable that locates the schema corresponding to the content (see at

least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019, 0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-

0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure 11, 14a, and 14b).

As per claim 28, Prompt teaches a system wherein: the first set of services and

the second set of services share a content model (see at least paragraphs [0005, 0018-0019,

0089-0092, 0099-0110, 0115-0123, 0140-0155, 0159-0163, 0175-0184, and[0241-0267]; see also Figure

11, 14a, and 14b).

Conclusion

8.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

Park et al (U.S. Patent Pub. 2004/0024812 A1) – teaches a content publication

system supporting real-time integration and processing of multimedia content.

Van Huben et al (U.S. Patent 6,327,594 B1) – teaches a system that performs

with a data manager and with a input from a user or pervasive computing device

via an API a plurality of process on data residing in heterogeneous data

repositories of computer system including promotion, check-in, check-out,

locking, library searching, setting and viewing process results, tracking

aggregations, and managing parts, releases and problem fix data under

management control of a virtual control repository having one or more physical

heterogeneous repositories. The system provides for storing, accessing, tracking

data residing in said one or more data repositories managed by the virtual control

repository.

Golshani et al (U.S. Patent 5,806,066) – teaches a method for integrating the

schemas of a plurality of independent and heterogeneous database management

systems of a distributed database management system (DDBMS). The DDBMS

includes a computer system in which the DDBMS resides and one or more

subservient computer systems. The schemas of two of the independent database

systems are fetched from the subservient computer systems. The schemas are

converted from a relational database form to an object-oriented form. The

schemas are then normalized and displayed graphically. Equivalencies are

identified and the two schemas are integrated. These steps are repeated until the

schemas of all data bases to be integrated have been integrated into a single

integrated, or global schema. The global schema is then converted from the

object-oriented form to the relational form, and SQL commands are created to

allow data from subservient databases to be obtained to create a virtual

database residing in the host computer system satisfying the requirements of the global integrated schema.

Heckerman et al (U.S. Patent 6,216,134) – teaches a system that provides for the graphic visualization of the categories of a collection of records. The graphic visualization is referred to as "category graph." The system optionally displays the category graph as a "similarity graph" or a "hierarchical map." When displaying a category graph, the system displays a graphic representation of each category. The system displays the category graph as a similarity graph or a hierarchical map in a way that visually illustrates the similarity between categories. The display of a category graph allows a data analyst to better understand the similarity and dissimilarity between categories. A similarity graph includes a node for each category and an arc connecting nodes representing categories whose similarity is above a threshold. A hierarchical map is a tree structure that includes a node for each base category along with nodes representing combinations of similar categories.

Conclusion

9.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Farhan M. Syed whose telephone number is 571-272-

7191. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on 571-272-4190. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/F. M. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 2165

/Neveen Abel-Jalil/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2165